Drinking Water Facilities to the Drought Prone districts of Orissa

605. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether special Central assistance is being given to some States to provide drinking water facilities to the drought prone districts; and

(b) if so, what is the amount of Central assistance given during the Seventh Five Year Plan period for providing drinking water facilities exclusively in the drought prone districts of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Provision of drinking water is the responsibility of the States. The Central Government assists the States in providing safe drinking water in rural area under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARP). Central assistance under ARP is given for the State as a whole and no special assistance is provided exclusively for providing drinking water to drought prone districts.

(b) During 1985-86 an amount of Rs. 900.00 lakhs has been allocated to Govt. of Orissa under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. An amount of Rs. 1·41 crores was also sanctioned on 30-4-85 under scarcity relief assistance for drinking water programme in Orissa as spill-over expenditure for 1985-86.

Termination of the Services of Group D Stenographers and LDCs in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

606. SHRI SYED AHMED HASHMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that services of Grade 'D' stenographers have been terminated in January, 1986 and that of class IV employees also, who were promoted to the posts of L.D.C. after qualifying departmental examination in 1982 are proposed to be reverted in his Ministry/Department.

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the number of such employees affected category-wise;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Directorate General, Doordarshan has not complied with the directions of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting regarding regularisation of ad-hoc group 'C' and 'D' employees; and

(d) if so, what remidial action Government propose to take to get these employees regularised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) The services of 26 Grade 'D' Stenographers recruited through Employment Exchange purely on temporary and ad-hoc basis who were not eligible for appearing in the Special qualifying examination held in July, 1985 for regularisation of their services, have been terminated with effect from 31·1·86 (A.N.) There is no proposal to revert those Class IV employees who were promoted to the posts of L.D.C. after qualifying departmental examination in 1982.

(c) and (d) The services of all but 14 persons working on daily wage/ad-hoc basis against Group 'C' and 'D' assignments at the headquarters of the Director General, Doordarshan or in Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi have been regularised in accordance with the relevant procedures. The services of remaining 14 persons could not be regularised so far for want of suitable long-term vacancies.